

NO SUBSIDIES WITHOUT VERIFICATION ACT

(Mrs. BLACK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, over the July 4th holiday, the Obama administration updated the Federal Register. And buried in more than 600 pages of new regulations was a controversial decision to delay verification of eligibility for ObamaCare's subsidies and instead use the honor system, which more accurately should be described as an open invitation for fraud and abuse.

In a desperate attempt to try to save the President's failing health care law, the administration is willing to give out billions of dollars in fraudulent payments, racking up even more debt for current and future generations. This is indefensible.

That is why I have introduced H.R. 2775, the No Subsidies Without Verification Act. My bill would stop this irresponsible action by requiring verification systems be put in place before any subsidy is paid with taxpayer money.

I urge my colleagues to join me in this fight and support H.R. 2775.

□ 0915

SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

(Mr. WAXMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, every day a member of the Safe Climate Caucus has come to the floor to raise concern about climate change, and we know about climate change from hurricanes and tornadoes and droughts and all of the other things that we're seeing.

But yesterday, the prestigious science journal, *Nature*, published an analysis of the cost of the rapid warming in the Arctic. That analysis found that the cost could range from \$10 trillion to over \$200 trillion. The mean cost is \$60 trillion. I'm not misspeaking. It's not \$60 million, it's not \$60 billion, but it's \$60 trillion.

These enormous costs are the consequence of the release of 50 gigatons of methane now trapped in the Arctic ice shelves, which experts believe will be released into the air within the next 50 years, if not sooner, if we don't stop spewing carbon pollution into our atmosphere.

The Arctic is pivotal to the functioning of the Earth's systems, such as the oceans and the climate, but we're recklessly endangering it. We need to stop acting like members of the Flat Earth Society and start listening to the urgent warnings of the scientists.

RE-REFERRAL OF H.R. 2315, PRESERVING ACCESS TO ORPHAN DRUGS ACT OF 2013

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that H.R. 2315,

Preserving Access to Orphan Drugs Act of 2013, be re-referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and, in addition, to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BLACK). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

COAL RESIDUALS REUSE AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2013

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 315 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2218.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 0917

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2218) to amend subtitle D of the Solid Waste Disposal Act to encourage recovery and beneficial use of coal combustion residuals and establish requirements for the proper management and disposal of coal combustion residuals that are protective of human health and the environment, with Mr. BISHOP of Utah in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, we have spent much time talking about the need for Congress to consider jobs legislation. This is a piece of pro-jobs legislation. This bill is unique because it is also a pro-states' rights legislation and pro-environment legislation.

But focusing on jobs for a minute, let me explain why a "no" vote is anti-jobs, placing anywhere from 39,000 to 316,000 jobs at risk at a time when we can least afford it.

We are here because over 3 years ago the EPA put out three proposals on coal ash, including regulating coal ash as a hazardous waste. This caused massive uncertainty in the marketplace and created an unnecessary stigma on legitimate recycling of this product, and I have a piece of shingle that's made and produced by coal ash.

And the States agree. As highlighted in a letter from the State of Michigan in support of H.R. 2218:

Enactment would end the regulatory uncertainty that has hindered our efforts to promote the beneficial use of coal combustion residuals.

EPA announced in litigation proceedings recently that it will not have

a final coal ash rule before 2014. The fact that EPA continues to leave a "hazardous waste" designation on the table even though three decades of science and fact point the other way, that coal ash is not hazardous, it directly is contributing to the loss of current and future recycling.

Coal ash is not an abstract substance. It is used in important infrastructure in this country. The American Coal Ash Association informed us that uncertainty in the marketplace caused by EPA's proposal to regulate coal ash as hazardous waste is diminishing their economic prospects down to just 40 percent of eligible coal wastes—and they support this bill.

This bill establishes a solid framework for regulation of coal combustion residuals in a manner that is protective of human health and the environment, or the State environmental regulators—including the Environmental Council of States, ECOS, and the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management officials—would not be endorsing this bill.

Coal ash makes concrete stronger, more durable, and cheaper. A "no" vote against this bill means that you support less durable, more expensive highways, schools, and green buildings. Don't take my word for it. The American Road and Transportation Builders Association and many other road and bridge builders, and also the Building and Construction Trades Union, want this bill because they want high-quality construction material for buildings, roads, and bridges.

For Members concerned about wall board from China, coal ash is a stable, domestic source for wall board and will control costs. Don't take my word for it. The American Forest and Paper Association supports this bill.

Mine workers across this country need a stable way of having America's energy future secured. This bill accomplishes that. Don't take my word for it. Ask the United Mine Workers, who supports this bill.

Coal ash is recycled and used as a raw material in making cement. Voting "no" means you choose to put coal ash in landfills rather than putting it back into roads and building projects. Don't take my word for it. Organizations like Portland Cement Association, the Phoenix Cement Company, the Wisconsin Ready Mix Concrete Association, and the Washington Aggregates and Concrete Association all support this bill.

A vote against this bill is a vote for prolonged regulatory uncertainty. A vote against this bill is a vote to increase costs on the Federal, State, and local governments and infrastructures. A vote against this bill is a vote to increase costs on all Americans and to dare unemployment to go even higher. A vote against this bill is a direct message to career State employees in States across this country that you do not trust them to do the right thing regarding regulation of coal ash.